



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, February 14, 2017

## *Electricity*

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### **Strong Thunderstorms Knock Out Power to Over 25,000 CenterPoint Customers in Texas February 14**

Thunderstorms producing heavy rains and high winds knocked out power to at least 25,000 CenterPoint customers in the Houston, Texas area on Tuesday morning. Wind gusts of up to 50 mph were reported causing damage to electric equipment. As of 3:30 p.m. EST on Tuesday, 2,845 customers remained without power. The majority of customers should have power restored by Tuesday night, according to the utility.

<http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/index.html>

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2017/02/14/texas-storm-system-brings-heavy-rain-tornado-warnings/>

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/damaging-storms-spawn-tornadoes-around-houston-area/70000857>

### **Power Restoration Nearly Complete in Nova Scotia February 14 after Winter Storm Hits February 13**

Nova Scotia Power reported power restoration was nearly complete on Tuesday after a winter storm knocked out power to at least 53,300 customers overnight Sunday into Monday. Crews were experiencing difficulty in accessing outages due to the heavy snow and winds up to 50 mph. The utility on Tuesday said the heavy snow and high winds subsided in the southern and central parts of the province and nearly full restoration was expected by the end of Tuesday.

<http://www.nspower.ca/en/home/newsroom/news-releases/nova-scotia-power-crews-work-round-the-clock.aspx>

<https://www.facebook.com/novascotiapower>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/blizzard-wind-snow-cancellations-1.3981546>

### **Update: Entergy's 653 MW Pilgrim Nuclear Unit 1 in Massachusetts Ramps Up to 50 Percent by February 14**

On the morning of February 13 the unit was operating at 20 percent after restarting on February 12. Entergy on February 9 preemptively shut its Pilgrim nuclear power station due to an impending snowstorm. The plant had been operating at 30 percent power since February 6 when a small seawater leak was identified in one condenser tube and subsequently repaired, according to a spokesperson. On February 12, officials found a leak in a feedwater valve after reconnecting to the grid. That valve was taken offline and other lines will be used to provide hot water to the reactor before repairs can be made.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

[https://twitter.com/PilgrimNuclear/status/829719282837835777?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw](https://twitter.com/PilgrimNuclear/status/829719282837835777?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

<http://www.fox25boston.com/news/pilgrim-nuclear-power-station-shuts-down-ahead-of-storm/492524571>

<http://www.capecod.com/newscenter/faulty-valve-discovered-during-pilgrim-power-up/>

### **Exelon's 1,131 MW Byron Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois Reduced to 71 Percent by February 14**

On the morning of February 13 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

### **Exelon's 1,111 MW La Salle Nuclear Unit 1 in Illinois Shut February 13**

The unit shut from full power when the main generator tripped on differential current.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2017/>

## **SPP Reports Wind Power Sets Brief Record as Source for Electricity February 12**

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) reported that wind generation briefly powered more than 50 percent of electric demand on Sunday for the first time on any North American power grid. Wind power briefly reached 52.1 percent at 4:30 a.m. local time on Sunday, SPP said, beating the previous penetration milestone of 49.2 percent. The 14-state SPP coordinates the flow of electricity on the high voltage power lines from Montana and North Dakota to New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana. Currently, wind is the third biggest source of generation in the SPP region, making up about 15 percent of capacity in 2016 behind natural gas and coal. Wind power in the SPP region has grown significantly to over 16,000 MW currently from less than 400 MW in the early 2000s and is expected to continue growing.

Reuters, 11:22 February 14, 2017

## ***Petroleum***

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### **New Hampshire Waives HOS Requirements for Truck Drivers Delivering Heating Fuels in Advance of Winter Weather February 13**

New Hampshire's Department of Safety on Monday issued an active emergency declaration that waives daily Hours of Service (HOS) limits for commercial drivers delivering heating fuels through Monday, February 27. The emergency exemption is issued in connection with anticipated emergency conditions as a result of several heavy snow storms, followed by a period of extremely cold temperatures. The order applies for motor carriers providing delivery of home and business fuels, as well as motor carriers transporting fuels from terminal locations to local propane and natural gas fuel delivery companies.

[https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/docs/NH\\_2017\\_02\\_13\\_13\\_34\\_48.pdf](https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/docs/NH_2017_02_13_13_34_48.pdf)

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/emergency/declaration-emergency-notice-title-49-cfr-39023>

### **Refineries in Houston, Texas Area Report No Impact, Normal Operations after Severe Weather February 14**

Refineries in the Houston, Texas area on Tuesday were reporting no impact to operations as strong thunderstorms moved across the region. ExxonMobil's 560,500 b/d Baytown refinery, LyondellBasell's 263,776 b/d Houston refinery, and Phillips 66's 247,000 b/d Sweeney refinery all reported normal operations. Shell's 285,500 b/d Deer Park refinery signaled a site-wide alarm due to the inclement weather, but added that there was no danger to the surrounding community or its industry neighbors, according to a community information line.

Reuters, 12:37 February 14, 2017

Reuters, 12:35 February 14, 2017

Reuters, 12:25 February 14, 2017

Reuters, 11:11 February 14, 2017

### **Shell Reports All-Clear Issued after Heat Exchanger Fire at Its 285,500 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery February 13**

Royal Dutch Shell on Monday night said the all-clear was given after a fire from a heat exchanger at its Deer Park, Texas refinery. The fire was caused by a leak from the heat exchanger head that ignited, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Shell said the Regen unit was shut down and depressurized as a result of the fire and reported emissions from a catalytic reformer, according to the filing.

Reuters, 16:21 February 14, 2017

Reuters, 22:50 February 13, 2017

### **Phillips 66 Restarts FCCU, Shuts Coker at Its 247,000 b/d Alliance, Louisiana Refinery February 13 – Sources**

Phillips 66 on Monday was restarting a fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) and shutting a coker and alkylation unit at its Alliance, Louisiana, refinery, said sources familiar with plant operations. The 120,000 b/d FCCU has been shut for a planned overhaul since January 28, according to the sources. The coker and alkylation unit were being shut to repair a fuel gas line leak.

Reuters, 16:41 February 13, 2017

## DEP Approves Permit for Sunoco's 275,000 b/d Mariner East 2 Pipeline in Pennsylvania February 13

Sunoco Logistics on Monday received Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit approvals for its 306-mile Mariner East 2 pipeline. The pipeline will move propane and other natural gas liquids from southwestern Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale natural gas fields to its Marcus Hook processing and distribution facility near Philadelphia. The company said the Mariner East 2 pipeline will provide four times the capacity of its existing Mariner East 1 pipeline and will largely follow the same right-of-way.

Reuters, 18:31 February 13, 2017

### **Natural Gas**

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Nothing to report.

### **Other News**

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Nothing to report.

### **International News**

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#### **Iraq to Reduce Exports from Basra Terminal to 3 Million b/d in March**

Iraq will reduce the amount of crude oil exported via its Basra port terminal to 3.013 million b/d in March, the lowest since August 2016, a loading program obtained by Reuters showed. Basra Light exports in March will drop to 2.207 million b/d and exports for Basra Heavy will fall slightly to 806,000 b/d, according to the program.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-oil-exports-idUSKBN15S0XO>

### **Energy Prices**

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
February 14, 2017			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	53.52	52.14	29.27
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	2.12	2.92	2.12

Source: Reuters

## Links

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

### ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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